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## THE POST'S OPINION

# CIA Selection Disquieting

President Carter's selection of Adm. Stansfield Turner to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency is disquieting.

The admiral, a classmate of Mr. Carter's at the Naval Academy, is a highly intelligent man with a distinguished military career. But is he truly the "outsider" that President Carter had wanted to let in needed fresh air in the supersecret CIA and curb the agency's flagrant abuses at home as well as abroad? Theodore Sorensen, who withdrew his name from nomination as CIA chief under congressional pressure, was such an outsider.

Turner, now commander-in-chief of NATO forces in Southern Europe, can only claim that he has never served as an intelligence officer. His military background may make him more acceptable to the intelligence community and Congress than was Sorensen — undoubtedly a strong factor in Mr. Carter's thinking. But that is not enough.

It is important that Turner's views and inclinations about the CIA be fully explored by the

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, of which Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is a member. The committee's recommendations will be crucial to Turner's confirmation.

In particular, the committee ought to probe deeply on such questions as these:

- Will Turner move quickly to end known CIA abuses, including the unacceptable clandestine use of American and foreign journalists?

- Will Turner make the CIA more responsible and accountable to Congress and the American people for its operations?

- Above all, will Turner make the CIA operate in a manner more consistent with the American concepts of human rights in an open society?

The hearings, hopefully, will give Turner ample opportunity to respond completely to these and other pertinent questions and thereby to remove doubts about his stewardship of the CIA.